

Application Serial No. 09/574,909

Claims 1-78 (Cancelled.)

79. (New) A computer-implemented method for matching a consumer with a home service provider comprising:

creating a database comprising home service providers and data for tracking a historical acceptance of consumer leads by each home service provider;

receiving information relating to a home service;

in response to receiving the information, providing a first list comprising tasks that relate to skills of home service providers;

receiving a selection of a task from the first list;

in response to receiving the selection of the task, forming a second list comprising home service providers from the database who match the selected task;

selecting home service providers from the second list based upon historical acceptance of consumer leads by home service providers; and

providing a third list comprising home service providers.

80. (New) The method of Claim 79, further comprising selecting home service providers who match a geographical location of the consumer.

81. (New) The method of Claim 79, further comprising prioritizing home service providers of the second list based on the historical acceptance of consumer leads by home service providers.

82. (New) The method of Claim 79, further comprising selecting home service providers from the second list based upon past response times of each respective home service provider.

83. (New) The method of Claim 79, further comprising receiving background information from home service providers.

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84. (New) The method of Claim 79, wherein creating the database comprises storing information comprising at least one of tasks performed by a home service provider, geographic region of operation, service response and fulfillment time, communication preferences, and preferences for tasks.

85. (New) The method of Claim 79, further comprising sending a message that identifies a consumer to a home service provider present in the third list.

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86. (New) A computer-implemented method for matching a consumer with a home service provider comprising:

receiving background information from home service providers;

monitoring a historical acceptance of consumer leads by each home service provider;

creating a database of home service providers based on the background information received from the home service providers;

receiving information relating to a home service;

in response to receiving the information, providing a menu comprising tasks that relate to skills of home service providers;

receiving a selection of a task from the menu;

in response to receiving the selection of the task, forming a dataset comprising home service providers from the database who match the selected task; and

selecting home service providers from the dataset based upon historical acceptance of consumer leads by home service providers.

87. (New) The method of Claim 86, wherein forming the dataset further comprises selecting home service providers who match a geographical location of the consumer.

88. (New) The method of Claim 86, wherein forming the dataset further comprises prioritizing home service providers of the dataset based on the historical acceptance of consumer leads by home service providers.

89. (New) The method of Claim 86, wherein forming the dataset further comprises prioritizing home service providers of the dataset based on past response times to service requests.

90. (New) The method of Claim 86, further comprising providing a dataset comprising home service providers to the consumer.

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91. (New) The method of Claim 86, wherein the background information comprises tasks performed by a home service provider, geographic regions of operation, service response and fulfillment time, communication preferences, and preferences for desired tasks.

92. (New) The method of Claim 86, further comprising sending a message that identifies a consumer to a home service provider present in the data set.

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93. (New) A system for matching a consumer with a home service provider via a distributed electronic network comprising:

a database accessible via the distributed electronic network for storing background information on home service providers and for storing a historical acceptance of consumer leads by each home service provider; and

a host server for communicating with the database and with a network device via the distributed electronic network and for executing computer-executable instructions for:

receiving information relating to a home service;

in response to receiving the information, providing a menu comprising tasks that relate to skills of home service providers;

receiving a selection of a task from the menu;

in response to receiving the selection of the task, forming a dataset comprising home service providers from the database who match the selected task; and

selecting home service providers from the dataset based upon historical acceptance of consumer leads by home service providers.

94. (New) The system of Claim 93, wherein forming the dataset further comprises selecting home service providers who match a geographical location of the consumer.

95. (New) The system of Claim 93, wherein the network device comprises a personal computer running an Internet browser application.

96. (New) The system of Claim 93, wherein the host server executes instructions for providing a dataset to the consumer via the Internet.

97. (New) The method of Claim 93, wherein the host server provides a dataset comprising home service providers to the consumer.

98. (New) The method of Claim 93, wherein the host server prioritizes home service providers of the dataset based on the historical acceptance of consumer leads by home service providers.